



Response to Queries/Clarifications  
from Design Engineer  
to the Sydney Tar Ponds Agency

Tender # STPA2008S-22  
Tender Title: Flow Diversion – TP6A  
Date: 11 December 2008  
To: Jerome MacNeil, Contract Manager  
From: K. MacPherson

Query/Clarification: Questions submitted to the Agency [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

Question 1

During the early part of TP6a construction there will be at least 5 separate work zones. These are

- 1) Construction of the Wash Brook pump station
- 2) Construction of the Coke Oven Brook station
- 3) Construction of the discharge outlet and ferry street
- 4) Construction of temporary drainage ditch (east of south pond)
- 5) Construction of temporary drainage ditch (west of south pond)

Section 01 35 30 of the TP6A specification, Clause 1.12 describes the requirements for air monitoring in accordance with section 3.6 of the MHASP. The purpose of this monitoring is for worker protection during intrusive activities (i.e. monitoring of dust and VOCs).

Sub clause 1.12.2 states:

"Where activities are being carried out at multiple location simultaneously, the Contractor must ensure adequate air monitoring instrumentation exists to meet the provisions contained in section 3.6 of the MHASP."

This section requires that PM10 and VOCs are measure on a 15 minute basis during the working day and that results are reported back to the STPA.

Given the size of the work zone in the South Pond and the 5 intrusive work zones –

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Is it practical for one air technician to take all readings at all locations during the day. This would mean that the air tech would have to set up at location one take several minutes of readings. Dismantle the equipment and move to the next location (possibly 500-1000m away) and set up again. If this is the case 15 minute interval readings will not be possible at each work zone and as such the Contractor is not in compliance with section 3.6 of the MHASP. This would clearly result in problems.

Answer:

It is practical for one air monitoring person to meet the intent of section 3.6 of the MHASP and sub clause 1.12.2 of tender specification 01 35 30. The person responsible to carry out such air monitoring could initially treat the entire South Pond as one site and set up at a general downwind location for a period of time (e.g. 1 hour) to assess if overall activities are generating anomalous levels of particulate matter or VOCs.

After taking the initial set of readings, the air monitoring person could then rotate among the various activities for a period long enough to gauge whether or not the activity is generating contaminants in quantities sufficient to potentially impact on human health (again a 1 hour period could be used). Where it is deemed that a particular activity is generating, or has the potential to generate elevated contaminant levels, it would be expected that the Contractor's air monitoring person would concentrate their efforts in that particular area.

It should be noted that this method would not be viewed as being out of compliance with Section 3.6 of the MHASP. However, should circumstances occur that in the opinion of the Agency or their designate, where one air monitoring person with sufficient instrumentation to set up at one location is not adequate to define occupational exposures, contractual mechanisms are in place to increase this resource.

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Question 2

Another issue worth considering is when the air tech has moved away from a work zone and intrusive activities continue there is no way of identifying if threshold limits have been exceeded as there is no device or air tech located within the intrusive work zone. Once again the Contractor would be in non-compliance with the specification requirements and the MHASP.

Answer:

Threshold limit values (TLVs) referred to in Section 3.6 of the MHASP refer to time weighted averages (TWAs) for an 8 hour period. As per the methodology defined in the answer to Question 1, evaluations of the various activities will determine whether anomalous conditions are occurring and thus allow for a concentrated evaluation of a particular activity to determine if TLV-TWAs are anticipated to be exceeded.

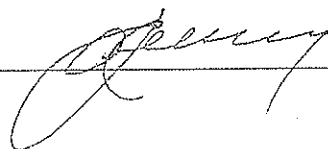
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Does this query/clarification warrant an Addenda? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No.

*If "Yes", please generate an Addendum Notification using STPA Form F 60800 and put your response on that form.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



11 December 2008